

31. A PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF THE PARASITES
RECOVERED FROM THE INDIAN WILD DOG
(*CUON ALPINUS*)

In December of 1975, the corpse of a female wild dog (*Cuon alpinus*) was recovered from the area surrounding the village of Wallathutam, just east of the Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu.

Following an autopsy she was found to be in her eighth week of pregnancy. Several specimens of endoparasites were isolated and preserved for identification. These samples, along with several specimens of ectoparasites and a collection of fecal samples were taken to the Veterinary College of Madras in Tamil Nadu. With the aid of C. M. Lalitha, professor of Parasitology, and her staff, these samples were identified.

In the fecal samples, eggs of the following Helminths were identified: *Ancylostoma* sp., *Trichuris* sp., *Moneizia* sp., and stray eggs of *Strongyle* sp. The latter may have been a result of some contamination.

Of those endoparasites recovered from the small intestine and colon, a tentative examination and identification was made based on the size and number of the Rostellar hooks; the mature and gravid segments obtained were of no value as they were not preserved on slides at the time of collection. As a result of this analysis, two species of Cestode were identified; *Taenia hydatigena*, and *Taenia pistiformis*.

Of the ectoparasites, two species of ticks; *Rhizecephalus haemaphysaloides* and *Haemaphysalis* sp. were identified. Only one species of flea, *Ctenocephalides felis felis* was recovered.

Further work in this area is being conducted in the Bandipur Sanctuary of Karnataka by A. J. T. Johnsingh of the A. J. College in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY,
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY,
COLUMBUS, OHIO, U.S.A.,

BRUCE D. BARNETT

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH INTO
ANIMAL PROBLEMS HUMANE
SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

M. W. FOX

WORLD FEDERATION FOR THE
PROTECTION OF ANIMALS,
ZURICH, SWITZERLAND.

J. A. COHEN

AYYA NADAR JANAKI AMMAL COLLEGE,
SIVAKASI, S. INDIA,
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A. J. T. JOHNSINGH